



Huntingdonshire Moth & Butterfly Group

Newsletter No 13

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Busy Year For Field Meetings

Glanville Fritillary

A trip to see the Glanville Fritillary has been arranged for Sunday 4th June. This butterfly is resident on the Isle of Wight, but a colony has become established on the mainland, south of the New Forest, near Christchurch, and this enables us to visit the site and return home on the same day. Ring Peter (01480 890784) if you intend to go.

Black Hairstreak

Several members have expressed an interest in visiting local sites of lepidopteral interest, and so with this in mind, there will be a visit to see the Black Hairstreak, a local speciality, at Monk's Wood on June 25th. Meet at the Woodwalton Gate (TL206805) at 11.00a.m. and bring a packed lunch

Small Mountain Ringlet

A weekend trip is proposed to see the Small Mountain Ringlet in Cumbria on July 1st & 2nd. Obviously, due to the distance involved, accommodation will need to be arranged, so if you are interested in this trip, please Contact Peter Rowlings on 01480 890784 by May 7th at the latest. A deposit will also be required for those intending to go.

White Spotted Pinion

This moth occurs on several sites in Hunts and, it seems, very few places elsewhere in the country. The reasons for this remain unclear. In order to shed some light on the puzzle, Hu.M.B.G. will be visiting Raveley Wood on Monday, May 22nd to beat for caterpillars. The aim is to establish what variety of elm the moth prefers, and what sort of growth on the trees it favours. If you would like to help in this research, meet at Raveley Wood (TL 244817) at 8.00p.m.

All Night Trapping

An all night trapping is in the process of being arranged for mid July. The site has yet to be finalised, but it is likely to be Aversley Wood, or another site that has not been recorded for some years.

National Moth Trapping Night - The Sequel

Following the success of last year's event, a second national moth night will take place on Saturday 23rd September. Hu.M.B.G. proposes to run a number of lights at Paxton Pits Nature Reserve, near St. Neots. Call Barry if you would like to take part. An additional reminder will appear in September's newsletter, to be published approximately 2 weeks before the event.

QUIZ

The eighth Hu.M.B.G. quiz was won by Nick Greatorex-Davies, with a score of 24 from a possible maximum of 33. Nick will be setting next year's Quiz.

e mails

You can now send items for inclusion in newsletters by e mail, which reaches me via Sky TV's digital services. Amongst the many limitations of the system, which seems to have been designed to be as slow and user unfriendly as possible is the inability for it to read file attachments, so no pictures, species lists etc. However, it can read simple text only messages OK. The address is andrew.booth@talk21.com. This address appears in the header of newsletters from now on. -A.B.

Changes to Winter Meetings

From this year the schedule of meetings will comprise three meetings, rather than the customary four. This is due to difficulty in finding speakers. The October and April meetings will remain, with April still Member's night, but the December and February dates will be replaced by one in January. Exact dates will be announced nearer the time, but all meetings will still be on Wednesdays at 8.00p.m. The venue will also be changing. From October 2000 the winter meetings will take place in Brampton, rather than Woodhurst, as this location is more convenient for the majority of members. Directions to the hall, including a map, will be sent to all members in time for the first meeting.

● The next newsletter is due for publication in June. Information should be sent to the address at the top of the page.